

Future Planning

Process

After ranking the major health problems in the county, the council considered forming subcommittees to develop strategies for different priority problems. However, due to the small number of council members and the lack of experience in the planning process, members agreed to work together on the #1 priority problem, Tobacco. The council is currently in the beginning stages of investigating possible strategies to utilize to prevent and control the use of tobacco. The council noted that by reducing the use of tobacco, all the priorities would be affected directly or indirectly. Therefore, planning a comprehensive strategy to address the tobacco issue is a substantive undertaking.

In the fall of 1997, the council undertook an activity it will continue annually. The activity involved coordinating and publicizing county agencies providing pneumonia and influenza vaccinations for the elderly population. The subcommittee responsible for this project set no specific outcome goals and objectives. However, each county agency dispensing these vaccinations were contacted and information about these services were publicized through the local newspaper and the Senior Citizens Center. The knowledge gained from this initial experience will be invaluable to the subcommittee in improving strategies for this project in the future.